

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YASUhide TACHI et al

Examiner: Roberts

Serial No. 024,111

Art Unit: 125

Filed: March 26, 1979

For: NOVEL HYDROCORTISONE  
DERIVATIVE

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of June 28, 1979, please  
amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2.

REMARKS

The Examiner's primary reference, U.S. 3,152,154 to  
Ercoli et al, discloses 17-monoesters of 17 $\alpha$ , 21-dihydroxy  
steroids. At column 4, lines 13-52, Ercoli et al teach that  
the monoesters of their invention can be modified by substitu-  
tion at the 21-position with halogen or by acylation at the  
21-position to give a diester. However, the only diesters  
specifically disclosed by Ercoli et al are cortisol 17 $\alpha$ -valerate-  
21-acetate and prednisolone 17 $\alpha$ -valerate-21-acetate. There  
is no teaching or suggestion of the specific diester claimed  
here, i.e. hydrocortisone 17-butyrate-21-propionate, or of  
any diester of hydrocortisone.

The teachings of Ercoli et al are also deficient in  
that they do not recognize the problem to which the invention  
claimed here is directed, i.e. the reduction of toxic side

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